



West Virginia Rural Development



75 High Street, Suite 320, Morgantown, WV 26505

MARCH 2005

Phillips Leaves Federal Sector

JENNY N. PHILLIPS, State Director of WV Rural Development since March, 2001, has decided to leave the Federal Government, effective April 2, 2005.

Ms. Phillips began her professional career as a teacher in Minot, North Dakota, and then as a psychotherapist at Creighton St. Joseph Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska.

Her career in the Federal Government started at the Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration in 1976 as a program assistant for the Title IX, Economic Adjustment Assistant.

In 1981, she served at the White House, Office of Public Liaison,

and then at the Office of Import Administration, as head of the Import Library during the steel anti-dumping, subsidy law suits.

In 1983, Ms. Phillips came to the Department of Agriculture as a budget analyst on the Secretary's budget staff and then to the Farmers Home Administration as Executive Assistant to the Associate Administrator.

In 1985, during the Farm Credit Crisis and asset sale, she became Executive Assistant to the Administrator. Her career moved to Assistant to the Deputy Administrator for Management and then to Director of the Equal Opportunity Office.

In 1993, she had the opportunity to come home and returned as Rural Development Coordinator and oversaw Round I of the EZ/EC program. In 1995, Jenny became a Rural Development Manager for Area II (central and eastern WV) and was appointed by the President as State Director in March 2001.



Ms. Phillips is a native West Virginian, raised in Elkins. She attended Davis & Elkins College and George Washington University. During her federal career, she was selected to attend the Senior Executive Fellows Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville.

During Phillips' four years leading Rural Development, **\$574,254,579** was invested in rural West Virginia.

Ms. Phillips' two sons are grown and have fled the nest, so it is time for her to return home on a full time basis and become re-acquainted with her husband and, of course, their Chocolate Labrador, RD.

She will join The Phillips Group, a marketing & public relations firm based in Elkins, Randolph County, WV.

"All Agency" Meeting Held

On February 8 and 9, 2005, approximately 225 federal and state employees gathered at the Ramada Inn Conference Center in Morgantown, WV, to "bridge the gap" between these employees and their clientele, the public.

Another facet of this meeting was to share information. Often times we are familiar with the name of another agency, but without knowledge of

their function to serve the public, we would not know to refer someone to that particular agency for assistance.

Within the room, approximately 3,330 years of public service was represented. "Communication and education tie us together," stated WV Department of Agriculture Commissioner, Gus Douglass. Mr. Douglass has 49 years of service and continues to passionately serve the general public.

During this meeting, Rural Development was represented by Richard Satterfield, Administrative Programs Director (pictured left); Dianne Crysler, Rural Housing Programs Director; Randy Plum, Rural Utilities Program Director; Cheryl Wolfe, Rural Business Programs Director; and Craig StClair, Multi-Family Housing Program Director.



RD Employees Conduct Outreach at WV Expo

The 26th Annual WV Equipment, Technology, and Design Exposition was held March 23 and 24 at the Charleston Civic Center. Representatives from USDA Rural Development (RD) were in attendance and were paid a surprise visit by US Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito at their exhibition booth.

EXPO provides continuing education opportunities for the RD staff. Over 60 seminars for designers, contractors, public works, and industry personnel were available.

In addition, EXPO also allows the RD staff to make personal contact with various potential borrowers and engineering companies in an effort to promote interest in and stimulate applications for their programs.

In 2004, over 6,000 people and 275 firms from 30 states participated in the activities.

FWCC Meets

March 9, 2005, marked the first meeting of the Federal Women's Coordinating Committee for Fiscal Year 2005.

Various federal agencies (pictured below) were represented at this meeting to discuss the future of the committee.

Nancy Taylor, WV RD's Special Emphasis Program Manager, and Dorina Helmick, attended this meeting and will keep us updated.



PHOTO: (left to right) Eric Gumm (RD Rural Utilities Technician), Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito, Paula Moeller (RD Community Facilities Specialist), Joe Crickenberger (RD Rural Utilities Specialist) and Randy Plum (RD Rural Utilities Program Director).

Site Managers Honored

USDA Rural Development recently presented Site Managers of the Year Awards for 2004.

The awards were presented in Charleston, WV, during a management Training Seminar held by TM Associates Management.

Rural Development administers a number of programs designed to strengthen rural economies and expand infrastructure in rural areas.

The Multi-Family Housing program assists families, the elderly and persons with a disability or handicap by providing them with safe, decent housing.

Annually, Rural Development recognizes outstanding managers of the Multi-Family Housing Program nationwide each year.

The Rural Development office in Parkersburg presented Stacy Wise

with the WV 2004 Multi-Family Housing Site Manager of the Year Award for an Elderly Complex.

Ms. Wise has been the site manager for Rockdale Village Apartments, Brooke County, since its opening in 1992. As an employee of Colonial American Development Corporation, Ms. Wise is responsible for day-to-day operations of the facility.

The Elkins Rural Development office presented Debbie Morgan with the WV 2004 Site Manager of the Year Award for a Family Complex.

Mrs. Morgan is the manager of the Randolph Village Apartments located in Elkins, Randolph County, WV.

Mrs. Morgan has managed this facility for seven years.

Martinsburg Holds Home Show

During the first weekend in March, Rural Development participated in the Martinsburg Home Show.

Rural Development employees
Howard Page, Wendell Alt, Linda



Smith, Ruth Ann Barron, and Scott Mullin spent their weekend providing the public and other agencies information concerning our housing programs.

In addition to Rural Development's web site, you can find additional information on purchasing property for sale by the federal government at the following address:

www.homesales.gov

This site not only shows Rural Development inventory, but also listings for other federal agencies.

Announcements

Teresa Miller has been selected for the Loan Specialist (Commercial) position in the Beckley Area Office. The new position became effective April 3, 2005.

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With the transition of Jenny N. Phillips from State Director of Rural Development to a position with The Phillips Group in the private sector, Rural Development has appointed an Acting State Director in the interim. The Acting State Director, Richard E. Satterfield, will uphold such position until such time that the Bush administration appoints a replacement for Phillips.

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If you are receiving this newsletter via mail and you would rather receive it via e-mail, please forward Gail Bennett, Editor, an email with such request to

Gail.Bennett@wv.usda.gov.

Also, if you know anyone that should be added to our mailing list, please let Ms. Bennett know.

Rural Development Acting State Director Richard E. Satterfield announces the availability of nationwide funding for Fiscal Year 2005 in the amount of \$2.157 billion through the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee program.

This amount includes \$2.032 billion for direct cost-of-money loans, \$46 million for direct 4-percent loans, and \$79 million for loan guarantees.

"This program expands access to high-speed Internet capabilities in rural areas, placing an investment in the rural community's future economic vitality," stated Satterfield. Accelerating the availability of broadband technologies in more remote rural areas increases their ability to effectively compete in domestic and global markets.

The funding announcement for this program was made, via a Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA), on March 4, 2005, in the Federal Register.

Cairo Remedies Emergency

The Town of Cairo, located in Ritchie County, currently provides public water service to approximately 181 customers.

Cairo's water system recently experienced a major waterline rupture that resulted in leaving the Town's customers without water for a period of three days and the issuance of a boil water advisory.

Emergency repairs were made to reinstate water service, however, the situation remains delicate and the community's water supply is still in jeopardy. The temporary repairs restored service to individual households, but do not comply with requirements as set by the West Virginia Bureau of Health.

Upon advice from its consulting engineer, the Town of Cairo has decided to permanently solve the problem by relocating the main waterline. Therefore, the Town applied for an Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant (ECWAG) through Rural Development's Rural Utilities Programs.

The Rural Utilities Programs has, consequently, approved an ECWAG in the amount of \$42,600.

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